

***DRAFT 6/20/2011 – SUBJECT TO CHANGE
For Review and Adoption by DSC at the July 29, 2011 Meeting***

**June 16, 2011
DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL
West Sacramento Community Center
1075 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691**

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, June 16, 2011, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m., June 16, 2011, by Chair Phillip Isenberg. The Council acted as a committee of the board, with Members Isenberg, Fiorini and Gray present.

2. Roll Call – Establish a Quorum (Water Code §85210.5)

A quorum was established at 9:06 a.m. The following members were present for the meeting: Fiorini, Gray, Isenberg, Johnston, Marcus and Nottoli. Absent: Hank Nordhoff.

3. Delta Plan Development

Joe Grindstaff began the discussion with an overview of the day and the schedule for the Draft Delta Plan. The focus of the meeting was the Executive Summary, a discussion of the alternatives, and the policies and recommendations included in the draft.

Chair Isenberg noted Member Nordhoff's absence and read his comments on the Executive Summary. Nordhoff's comments were:

- Page 3, replace the title from Executive Summary to Preface
- Page 3, line 9, replace impose on with counters
- Page 3, line 19, replace incremental with marginal
- Page 3, line 33, delete "bring order and oversight to the debate over Delta Resources and replace with "to fix the situation"
- Page 4, lines 1-5, delete and replace with Californians must set aside regional and partisan bickering. Threats to the current water supply and an ecosystem in decline cannot be ignored much longer and failure to act will imperil current and future generations of Californians.
- Page 4, lines 9-15, delete
- Page 4, lines 16-17, replace Delta Stewardship Council is with members of the Delta Stewardship Council are proud
- Page 4, line 38, Delta Plan Highlights - entire section, suggested this is where we include a short hand summary of the chapters as opposed to picking out specific points of discussion. Nordhoff suggested that we focus on the way we're going and how we are going to do what we want to do.

Following introductory remarks on coequal goals, ecosystem restoration in the Delta, resolving issues on flows with the State Board, and a number of other stressors, and hearing Council members' comments on the Executive Summary, Grindstaff was joined by Terry Macaulay, Gwen Buchholz and the chapter authors who answered questions and provided clarification on the Executive Summary, the EIR Alternatives, and the comparison of revised Policies and Recommendations.

4. Public Comment

Tom Zuckerman, Central Delta Water Agency, commented on the EIR Alternatives attachment and spoke on the notion of separating the short-term recommendations (within the next 5-10 years) and long-term recommendations on the EIR statement considerations, and doing a supplemental EIR for the long-term recommendations. More detailed information could be added to the environmental analysis if the Council focused on the things that could be done in the short-term. Zuckerman also stated that he would like to see some resolution of the flow requirements in the Delta and designation of design floodways within the Delta. Zuckerman also commented on the Comparison of Policies and Recommendations between the Fourth and Third Staff Draft, noting that protection of property had been left out in the text of RRP 4. He also commented on Emergency Planning, and his personal experience with a public utilities District and McDonald Island.

Anson Moran, Delta Wetlands, said he continued to be impressed by the process of comments being read and considered for inclusion in the Delta Plan. Moran made comments on the waiver language in the plan. He feels that the Council needs to modify the language in the Plan from a possible standard to a feasible standard. Regarding Adaptive Management section, Moran stated that there were problems of applying it full force to specific projects and felt there needs to be some flexibility on adaptive management. He also commented on the whether the consistency determination would be linear or circular. Moran stated he would submit specific language changes.

Tim Quinn, Association of California Water Agencies, presented a summary of comments posted at http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/Ag_Urban_Coalition_Alternate_Delta_Plan.pdf

Maureen Martin, Contra Costa Water District, commented that she felt the 4th draft had improved and particularly appreciated the improvements in the Water Quality Chapter. She stated she supported the inclusion of the statements by the Environmental Water Caucus and ACWA with regard to the EIR Alternatives Analysis. Martin stated she will submit written comments.

Jonas Minton, Planning and Conservation League, commented on the process stating it will be interesting to look at differences and overlaps, now. Minton stated that he felt there were some interesting concepts and recommendations in ACWA's paper. He commented on one policy he felt had been overlooked was phasing for large scale projects and offered suggested language. He also commented on ERP 1 relating to flows and water quality protection and offered substitute language. Minton stated he would submit his comments in writing.

Ryan Bezerra, Bartkiewicz, Kronick & Shanahan, thanked the Council for the way the Plan seem to be headed on alternatives. He stated he seconded Quinn's thoughts. Bezerra

commented on WRR 3, stating that representing clients in the watershed, the way it read to him was that you had to do everything that needs to be done in the watershed and urged the Council to be careful about going beyond the Delta.

David Guy, Northern California Water Agency, thanked the Council for accepting the comments from Quinn and others. He asked the council if there was a water supply reliability component in the plan and did it supply more upstream water for Delta users.

Melinda Terry, North Delta Water Agency and California Central Valley Flood Control Association, made general plan development comments and requested clarification on the structure for the Council meeting on June 23-24. Terry stated she felt the narrative of Delta as a Place was not accurate and stated the coequal goals are not described or defined well in the narrative.

Jessica Ludy, American Rivers, thanked Gwen Buchholz and Eric Nichol for meeting with her last week to address their concerns. Ludy felt the chapter on Reduced Risk had greatly improved. Ludy made several comments on the chapter including reducing risk by identifying areas for bypass areas and floodways, putting more people at risk by placing new developments behind levees, economic annual damage tool that is used by the Corps – stating it was a tool but when looking at annual damages the tool gives an average over time and doesn't capture the extreme event.

Gary Bobker, The Bay Institute, stated TBI will submit written comments. Bobker stated the draft has greatly improved. His comments focused on defining outcomes for achieving coequal goals stating that metrics that show trends of 1 percent improvement to 100 percent improvement really adds no value. He also commented on flows, near-term risks for ecosystem, and the ag-urban alternative stating he was pleased to see that ACWA focused on outcomes. Bobker summarized issues his organization advocates such as greater flows, improved habitat and improvements in conveyance and water quality.

- 5. Preparation for Next Council Meeting – Discuss (a) expected agenda items; (b) new work assignments for staff; (c) requests of other agencies; (d) other requests from Council members; and (e) confirm next meeting date – June 23-24, 2011, at the West Sacramento City Hall Galleria.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.